

1. A method for writing an image to a storage device of a computer system, the method comprising:
 - receiving an image on the computer system, wherein the computer system has a current operating system and includes a hard drive having a file system;
 - storing the image on the computer system;
 - using an imaging tool to write the image to the hard drive of the computer system, wherein the imaging tool uses a temporary file system to access the image, wherein the temporary file system is transparent to the imaging tool and wherein the temporary file system is not the file system of the hard drive.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the image is stored on one or more partitions of the hard drive of the computer system without using the file system.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising writing the image to the one or more partitions of the hard drive of the computer system such that the imaging tool is accessing the image from the same hard drive as it is writing the image to.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising running an imaging operating system that is different than the current operating system, wherein the imaging tool operates on the imaging operating system.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the imaging operating system comprises DOS.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the temporary file system is implemented at the BIOS level through use of an interrupt.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the image from an administrative system to the computer system.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the image is multicast by the administrative system.
9. The method of claim 2, wherein the image is stored on an unformatted partition of the hard drive and on the final sectors of the unformatted partition.

10. A computer-readable medium for storing program data, wherein the program data comprises executable instructions for implementing a method for writing an image to a storage device of a computer system, the method comprising:

running an imaging operating system on the computer system, wherein the computer system has a current operating system that is not running, and wherein the computer further includes a hard drive having a file system;

receiving an image on the computer system;

storing the image on the hard drive of the computer system without using the file system;

writing the image to the hard drive of the computer system using an imaging tool,

wherein the imaging tool uses a temporary file system to access the image,

wherein the temporary file system is transparent to the imaging tool and wherein

the temporary file system is not the file system of the hard drive.

11. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein the imaging operating system comprises DOS.

12. The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the temporary file system is implemented at the BIOS level by redirecting access of one or more storage devices.

13. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the method further comprises communicating with an administrative system via a computer network.

14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the image is stored on an unformatted portion of the hard drive which is on final sectors of one or more partitions of the hard drive.

15. A system for imaging a computer system, the system comprising:

- an administrative computer system in electronic communication with a computer network, wherein the administrative computer system comprises:

- an image for use with a target computer system; and

- an imaging server for managing imaging processes on other computers;

- a target computer system in electronic communication with the computer network, wherein the target computer system comprises:

- a computer-readable medium that is part of the target computer system or is in electronic communication with the target computer system, the computer-readable medium comprising instructions for the target computer system to implement a method for writing the image to a storage device, the method comprising:

- running an imaging operating system on the target computer system, wherein the target computer system has a current operating system that is not running, and wherein the target computer system further includes a hard drive having a file system;

- receiving the image from the administrative computer system;

- storing the image on the hard drive of the target computer system without using the file system; and

- writing the image to the hard drive of the target computer system using an imaging tool, wherein the imaging tool uses a temporary file system to access the image, wherein the temporary file system is transparent to the imaging tool and wherein the temporary file system is not the file system of the hard drive.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the imaging operating system comprises DOS.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the temporary file system is implemented at the BIOS level by redirecting access of one or more storage devices.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein the image is stored on an unformatted partition of the hard drive which is on final sectors of the unformatted partition.